

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01168 01 OF 02 192105Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPA-01 COME-00 AID-05 CEQ-01
CIAE-00 SOE-02 DODE-00 EB-08 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15
SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05 CEA-01 EA-10 FRB-03 NEA-10
OPIC-03 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 /143 W
-----066261 192156Z /75

R 192047Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4373
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 01168

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD
DEPT PASS TO EPA AND TO COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV
SUBJ: APRIL STOCKHOLM MEETING ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC
SUBSTANCES

1. A JANUARY 17 DRAFT LETTER OF INVITATION TO STOCKHOLM
MEETING APRIL 11-13 ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES
HAS BEEN OBTAINED AND TEXT FOLLOWS:

DEAR SIRs,

AN INTERNATIONAL MEETING FOR OFFICIALS AT A POLICY-MAKING
LEVEL ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES WITH SPECIAL
REGARD TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMICALS WILL BE CONVENED IN
STOCKHOLM IN APRIL 1978. THE AIM OF THE MEETING IS TO
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 01168 01 OF 02 192105Z

BRING REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS TOGETHER TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS ARISING FROM
LEGISLATIONS ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND TO COME TO SOME
MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IN CRUCIAL AREAS AS TO HOW BEST TO
HANDLE THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS FOR THE TIME BEING,
IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND IN THE LONG RUN.

ON BEHALF OF THE SWEDISH PRODUCTS CONTROL BOARD IT IS MY PLEASURE TO INVITE TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF (BLANK) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT HAESSELBY CASTLE IN STOCKHOLM, APRIL 11-13, 1978. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR COUNTRY IS A LEADING PERSON ON A POLICY-MAKING LEVEL AND THE OTHER A HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSON COVERING THE TECHNICAL FIELD.

THE BACKGROUND TO THIS INVITATION IS THE FOLLOWING:

DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS NEW LEGISLATION ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES HAS BEEN ENACTED IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, AMONG OTHERS CANADA, FRANCE, JAPAN, NORWAY, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES. MOREOVER, IN A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, E.G. UNEP, WHO, OECD, AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF WORK HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH THE USE OF TOXIC CHEMICALS. TH ON THE NATIONAL AND THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL SPECIAL ATTENTION HAS BEEN PAID TO RISKS TO THE ENVIRONMENT THAT MAY BE CAUSES BY CHEMICALS.

MOST COUNTRIES WITH NEW LEGISLATION ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES ARE STILL IN THE EARLY PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION. CONSULTATIONS WHICH WE HAVE HAD GIVE EVIDENCE THAT AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION AT THIS TIME BETWEEN THE POLICY-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 01168 01 OF 02 192105Z

MAKERS INVOLVED, MAY BE USEFUL IN ORDER TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO PROMOTE THIS IMPLEMENTATION IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION, TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF WORK AND RISKS OF COMPLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE. OBVIOUSLY, IT IS ALSO THE APPROPRIATE TIME TO DISCUSS WHETHER EXISTING MACHINERIES PROVIDE NATIONS WITH A MAXIMUM OUTCOME OF ONGOING INTERNATIONAL WORK.

THE MAIN PART OF THE MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED TO IDENTIFYING PROBLEM AREAS WHICH NEED IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. TOPICS WHICH MAY BE TOUCHED UPON ARE RESOURCE SHARING, EARLY WARNING, TESTING AND SCREENING PROCESSES, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT. AS AN INTRODUCTION THERE WILL BE A REVIEW OF ONGOING WORK ON THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS, INCLUDING STATEMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN INVITED, NAMELY AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FINLAND, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWITZERLAND, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES.

DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD IN ENGLISH. FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE MEETING WILL BE CIRCULATED LATER ON.

SINCERELY YOURS, VALFRID PAULSSON, DIRECTOR GENERAL.
END TEXT.

2. THE INTENT OF THE MEETING IS TO HAVE AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES IN SELECTED TOPIC AREAS, AT THE POLICY-MAKER LEVEL. THE SWEDES HAVE LIMITED THE ATTENDANCE TO TWO PER COUNTRY, ONE AT THE POLICY LEVEL, THE OTHER AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL.

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01168 02 OF 02 192105Z
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R 192047Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4374
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 01168

USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, DEPT PASS TO EPA AND TO COMM-
ERCE

3. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR AS TO WHOM PAULSSON WILL ADDRESS THE LETTER IN THE U.S. THE STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IS UNCLEAR. WHILE THEY ARE BEING ASKED TO PRESENT STATEMENTS, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHICH ORGANIZATIONS ARE TO BE SELECTED (UNEP, WHO, OECD, EEC MENTIONED).

4. RESOLUTION OF THE DESIGNATION OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S. POSITION REGARDING THIS MEETING ARE REQUIRED PRIOR TO U.S. RESPONSE TO THE ANTICIPATED INVITATIONS. ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION OF THE STATUS AND IDENTITY OF

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE SOUGHT DURING THE
US/EC MEETINGS ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY AMPLIFICATION
BY AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, TOXINS & ANTITOXINS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE01168
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780029-0550
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780147/aaaabnan.tel
Line Count: 174
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 27ef3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
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Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3750051
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APRIL STOCKHOLM MEETING ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC STANCES
TAGS: SENV
To: STATE STOCKHOLM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/27ef3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014